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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **GROUP 1700**

Applicants: BLEY et al

Serial No.: 09/423,086

Filed: January 28, 2000

For: Reduction Of Noxious Gases In Gas Mixtures  
From Pyrotechnic Reactions

Group: 1754

Examiner: T. Vanoy

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 20, 2003

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please add the following new claims to the application:

11. A method for reducing nitrogen oxides in gas mixtures from pyrotechnic reactions, comprising carrying out a pyrotechnic reaction to generate a gas mixture;  
vaporizing at least one additive selected from the group consisting of metallocenes, metallocene derivatives, sulfur, and sulfur compounds by the heat released in the pyrotechnic reaction; and

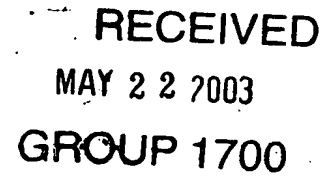
converting nitrogen oxides in the gas mixture to non-toxic compounds in a homogenous gas phase reaction in the presence of the vaporized additive.

12. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one additive is selected from the group consisting of diacetylferrocene, titanocene pentasulfide, and sulfur.

13. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one additive comprises ferrocene.

14. The method according to Claim 1, wherein at least one component of the gas-generating substance is coated with the at least one additive.

15. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the additive substance is placed in a flow path of the gas mixture.



☐ New Application Transmittal  
    \_\_\_ Pages of Specification  
    \_\_\_ Sheets of Drawings

☐ Declaration

☐ Claim for Priority  
    ☐ Priority Documents

☐ Assignment Papers

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Credit Card Payment Form  
    Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Amendment / Prelim

☐ Petition for Extension of Time

☐ Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Copies of References

☐ Notice of Appeal

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated in connection with above identified application.

U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE